Case 2:19-cv-16921-KM-ESK Document 1 Filed 08/20/19 Page 1 of 12 PageID: 1 CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil di	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	HONS ON NEXT PAGE OF	r THIS FO	RM.)						
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS ITPEU Pension Fund, et al.				DEFENDANTS NMS Management, Inc.						
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Union County (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Susan A. Murray, Esq Freedman & Lorry, P.C. 1601 Market St., Suite 1500, Philadelphia, PA 19103 smurray@freedmanlorry.com, (215) 931-2506				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known)						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	ne Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES	(Place an "X" in	One Box f	or Plainti	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	ment 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)			(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State		Incorporated or Pri of Business In T		or Defenda PTF 4	DEF	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citize	en of Another State	2 🗇 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A		5	□ 5	
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗇 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	□ 6	
	ATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) CONTRACT TORTS		FORESTUDE/DENALTY				of Suit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES			
CONTRACT 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 750 Motor Vehicle 760 Other Personal Injury 860 Other Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	TY	CABOR 1. CABOR O Fair Labor Standards Act O Labor/Management Relations Relations O Railway Labor Act Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Not Note Immigration Actions Other Immigration Actions	422 Appe 423 With 28 U PROPE 820 Copy 830 Pater 835 Pater 840 Trad SOCIAL 861 HIA 862 Blac 863 DIW 864 SSIL 865 RSI 870 Taxe 870 Taxe 26 U 871 IRS 26 U	RTY RIGHTS rights at 1. Abbreviated Drug Application emark SECURITY (1395ff) & Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g))	375 False CI 376 Qui Tan 3729(a) 400 State Re 410 Antitrus 430 Banks ai 450 Commer 460 Deporta 470 Rackete Corrupt 480 Consum 490 Cable/Si 850 Securitic Exchan 890 Other St 891 Agricult 893 Environ 895 Freedon Act 896 Arbitratt 899 Adminis Act/Rev	aims Act n (31 USC) napportion t napportion t napportion er Influenc Organizati er Credit at TV es/Commo- ge attutory Ac utral Acts nental Mat n of Inform ion strative Pro- iew or Api Decision utionality on	ment g ced and ions dities/ ctions tters nation ocedure peal of	
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DATE 08/20/2019 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	Sma Al	JUDGE	TORNEY (DF RECORD	DOCKE	T NUMBER				
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FREEDMAN AND LORRY, P.C. BY: SUSAN A. MURRAY, ESQUIRE (SM-7713) 1601 Market Street, 15th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 931-2506

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

ITPEU PENSION FUND, by and through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen DENNIS ARRINGTON and JERRY BOWDEN 216 North Ave. East, 2nd Fl. Cranford, NJ 07016

and

ITPEU ANNUAL BENEFIT FUND, by and Through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen DENNIS ARRINGTON and JOHN MORGAN 216 North Ave., East, 2nd Fl. Cranford, NJ 07016

and

ITPEU HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND, by and:
Through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen:
DENNIS ARRINGTON and HAROLD E.
GELBER:
25 Chatham Center South, Suite 100:
Savannah, GA 31405:

v.

NMS MANAGEMENT, INC. 155 W. 35th Street, Suite A National City, CA 91950

and

PENTAD CORPORATION 8925 W. Post Road, Suite 210 Las Vegas, NV 89148

Defendants.

Plaintiffs,

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs, by undersigned counsel, complain about Defendants as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under LMRA 29 U.S.C. §185(a), ERISA 29 U.S.C. §1132 and 29 U.S.C. §1145 and the pendent jurisdiction of the Court.
- 2. A copy of this Complaint has been served on the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Treasury of the United States by certified mail.

VENUE

3. Venue lies in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey under 29 U.S.C. §§ 185(a) or 1132(e)(2).

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff, ITPEU Pension Fund by and through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen Dennis Arrington and Jerry Bowden ("Pension Fund") is a trust fund established under 29 U.S.C. § 186(c)(5) and "multiemployer plans" and "Employee benefit plans" within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1002(37), (2), and (3). Dennis Arrington and Jerry Bowden are trustees and fiduciaries with respect to the Pension Fund within the meaning of 29 U.S.C.§ 1002 (21). They are authorized to bring this action on behalf of all Trustees of the Pension Fund. The Pension Fund is administered in the District of New Jersey, at the address listed in the caption.
- 5. Plaintiff, ITPEU Annual Benefit Fund by and through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen Dennis Arrington and John Morgan ("Annual Fund") is a trust fund established under 29 U.S.C. § 186(c)(5) and "multiemployer plans" and "Employee benefit plans" within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1002(37), (1), and (3). Dennis Arrington and John Morgan are trustees

and fiduciaries with respect to the Annual Fund within the meaning of 29 U.S.C.§ 1002 (21). They are authorized to bring this action on behalf of all Trustees of the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund are administered in the District of New Jersey, at the address listed in the caption.

- 6. Plaintiff, ITPEU Health and Welfare Fund by and through its Board of Trustees, Co-Chairmen Dennis Arrington and Harold E. Gelber ("Welfare Fund" hereinafter, with Plaintiffs collectively called the "Funds") is a trust fund established under 29 U.S.C. § 186(c)(5) and "multiemployer plans" and "Employee benefit plans" within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1002(37), (1), and (3). Dennis Arrington and Harold E. Gelber are trustees and fiduciaries with respect to the Welfare Fund within the meaning of 29 U.S.C.§ 1002 (21). They are authorized to bring this action on behalf of all Trustees of the Welfare Fund. The Welfare Fund is administered at the address listed in the caption.
- 7. Defendant NMS Management, Inc. is an employer in an industry affecting commerce with the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 152 (2), (6) and (7), 1002(5), (11) and (12) with a business address as listed in the caption.
- 8. Defendant Pentad Corporation is an employer in an industry affecting commerce with the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 152 (2), (6) and (7), 1002(5), (11) and (12) which is registered in Las Vegas, Nevada with a registered agent located at the address listed in the caption. Defendants NMS Management, Inc. and Pentad Corporation will be hereinafter referred to as the "Employer" or "Defendants".

FACTS

9. At all times relevant to this action, the Defendants were party to a collective bargaining agreement(s) with the ITPEU, OPIEU Local 4873, AFL-CIO (singly or jointly, "Labor Contract"). Pursuant to the terms of the contract, the Defendants identified themselves as a single

entity for purposes of the Labor Contract, identifying themselves as "Company". A true and correct copy of the Labor Contract is hereto attached as Exhibit "1."

- 10. The Employer also signed or agreed to abide by the terms of the Declaration of Trust for each of the Funds as from time to time amended ("Trust Agreements"), creating the Funds, made between certain employers and employee representatives in an industry affecting interstate commerce to promote stable and peaceful labor relations.
 - 11. Under the Labor Contract or Trust Agreement, the Employer agreed:
 - (a) To make full and timely payments on a monthly basis to the Funds;
- (b) To file monthly remittance reports with the Funds detailing all employees or work for which contributions were required under the Labor Contract or Trust Agreement;
- (c) To produce, upon request by the Funds, all books and records deemed necessary to conduct an audit of the Employer's corporate records concerning its obligations to the Funds; and
- (d) To pay interest and liquidated damages and all costs of litigation, including attorneys' fees, expended by the Funds to collect any amounts due as a consequence of the Employer's failure to comply with its contractual obligations described in Subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c).
- The Employer failed to submit contributions and remittance reports to the Pension Fund for April 2019, May 2019, June 2019, and July 2019 for the AntiSubmarine Warfare facility, San Diego Navy bases, and Lemoore Naval Air Bases. Based upon the monthly contributions made in previous months, the Employer owes the Pension Fund an estimated amount of \$18,400.00 in contributions for the months of April 2019, May 2019, June 2019, and July 2019 for the three bases, plus liquidated damages, interest for this time period, and ongoing interest.

- 13. The Employer paid contributions to the Pension Fund late for the months of December 2018, January 2019, February 2019, and March 2019 accruing interest in the amount of \$606.16 which is outstanding. Interest was calculated from the date payment of the contribution was due to the date of actual payment. A breakdown of the accrued interest due to the Pension Fund is attached as Exhibit '2.'
- 14. The Employer failed to submit contributions and remittance reports to the Annual Fund for June 2019 and July 2019 for the Lemoore, CA facility. Based upon the monthly contributions made in previous months, the Employer owes the Annual Fund an estimated amount of \$5,000.00 in contributions for the months of June 2019 and July 2019, plus liquidated damages, interest for this time period, and ongoing interest.
- 15. The Employer paid contributions to the Annual Fund late for the months of April 2019 and May 2019 accruing interest in the amount of \$32.12 which is outstanding. Interest was calculated from the date payment of the contribution was due to the date of actual payment.
- 16. The Employer failed to submit contributions and remittance reports to the Welfare Fund for June 2019 and July 2019 for the Lemoore, CA and San Diego, CA facilities. Based upon the monthly contributions made in previous months, the Employer owes the Health and Welfare Fund an estimated amount of \$43,100.00 in contributions for the months of June 2019 and July 2019, plus liquidated damages, interest for this time period, and ongoing interest.
- 17. Employer paid contributions to the Welfare Fund late for the months of February 2019, March 2019, April 2019, and May 2019 accruing interest in the amount of \$2,046.39 which is outstanding. Interest was calculated from the date payment of the contribution was due to the date of actual payment. True and correct copies of interest letters sent to the Employer from the Welfare Fund is attached as Exhibit '3.'

18. On July 2, 2019, Fund Counsel sent a demand letter to the Employer on behalf of the Pension Fund. The Employer did not respond to the letter. On July 15, 2019, Fund Counsel sent a second notice demand letter to the Employer on behalf of the Pension Fund. The Employer did not respond to the letter. On July 30, 2019, Fund Counsel sent a final notice demand letter on behalf of the Pension Fund. The letters demanded payment within ten days of the date of the letter. To date, the Pension Fund has not received payment of the outstanding contributions or the corresponding remittance reports. A true and correct copy of the July 2, 2019 letter is hereto attached as Exhibit '4.' A true and correct copy of the July 15, 2019 letter is hereto attached as Exhibit '5.' A true and correct copy of the July 30, 2019 letter is hereto attached as Exhibit '6.'

COUNT I CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER CONTRACT – SUM CERTAIN

- 19. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 18 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 20. The Employer owes the Pension Fund an estimated amount of at least \$18,400.00, due under the Labor Contract in contributions.
- 21. The Employer owes the Pension Fund the sum of \$606.16 in interest demanded but not paid for the months of December 2018, January 2019, February 2019, and March 2019.
- 22. The Employer owes the Annual Fund an estimated amount of at least \$5,000.00, due under the Labor Contract in contributions.
- 23. The Employer owes the Annual Fund the sum of \$32.12 in interest demanded but not paid for the months of April 2019 and May 2019.
- 24. The Employer owes the Welfare Fund an estimated amount of at least \$43,100.00, due under the Labor Contract in contributions.

25. The Employer owes the Welfare fund the sum of \$2,046.39 in interest demanded but not paid for the months of February 2019, March 2019, April 2019, and May 2019.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs ask that the Court:

- (1) Enter judgment against the Employer and in favor of the Pension Fund for at least \$19,006.16, in favor of the Annual Fund for at least \$5,032.12, and in favor of the Welfare Fund for at least \$45,146.39, plus any delinquencies incurred during the pendency of this action, together with liquidated damages, interest and costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action or the collection or enforcement of any judgment as provided in the Labor Contract or Trust Agreement.
- (2) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

COUNT II CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER ERISA – SUM CERTAIN

- 26. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 25 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 27. The Employer has failed to pay contributions to the Funds in violation of 29 U.S.C. §1145.
- 28. The Employer owes the Pension Fund at least the sum of \$18,400.00; as well as the Annual Fund at least the sum of \$5,000.00 and the Welfare Fund at least the sum of \$43,100.00 in contributions, interest, and liquidated damages due under the Labor Contract. In addition, Employer has failed to submit remittance reports in violation of the labor contract and trust agreements.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs ask that the Court:

- (1) Enter judgment against the Employer and in favor of the Pension Fund for at least \$18,400.00, in favor of the Annual Fund for at least \$5,000.00, and in favor of the Welfare Fund for at least \$43,100.00 plus any additional contributions incurred during the pendency of this action, together with interest, liquidated damages provided by the documents governing the Funds or ERISA 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2) and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action or the collection or enforcement of any judgment.
- (2) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary, or appropriate.

COUNT III AUDIT

- 29. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 28 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 30. The Employer is obligated to permit the Funds to audit the Employer's records and to cooperate in determining the contributions due the Funds.
- 31. The amount of contributions the Employer is required to pay to the Funds is based upon hours worked and wages paid to employees performing work covered by the Labor Contract.
- 32. The Funds are without sufficient information or knowledge to plead the precise nature, extent and amount of the Employer's delinquency since the books, records and information necessary to determine this liability are in the exclusive possession, custody and control or knowledge of the Employer. In addition, an audit is warranted due to the chronic late payments made by the Employer.
- 33. Computation of the precise amount of an Employer's delinquency is normally achieved by an audit of the Employer's books and records and/or calculated from contractually required remittance reports submitted by the Employer.

- 34. The Employer is required by the Labor Contract, Trust Agreements or applicable law to permit the Funds to audit its records and to cooperate in determining the contributions due the Funds.
- 35. The Funds have no adequate remedy at law for the calculation of any damages suffered as a result of the Employer's failure to cooperate.
 - 36. All conditions precedent to equitable relief have been satisfied.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs ask that the Court:

- (a) Enjoin the Employer, the Employer's officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and all others in active concert or participation with it to permit an audit of <u>all</u> records under the actual or constructive control of the Employer and, in the absence of records, to cooperate in alternative methods for the determination of work for which contributions are due, and;
- (b) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as is just, necessary or appropriate.

COUNT IV CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER CONTRACT AFTER AUDIT

- 37. The allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 36 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 38. On information and belief, the Employer has failed to make contributions to the Funds as required by its Labor Contract or Trust Agreements in a period not barred by any applicable statute of limitations or similar bar.
- 39. On information and belief, the Funds have been damaged by the failure of the Employer to make contributions as required by its Labor Contract or Trust Agreements.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs ask that the Court:

- (a) After an audit, enter judgment against the Employer in favor of the Funds for the amount of contributions found due and owing by an audit together with liquidated damages, interest and costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action or the collection and enforcement of any judgment, as provided in the Labor Contract or Trust Agreements.
- (b) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

COUNT V CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER ERISA AFTER AUDIT

- 40. The allegations of Paragraph 1 through 39 are incorporated by reference as if fully restated.
- 41. On information and belief, the Employer has failed to make contributions to the Funds in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 1145 in a period not barred by an applicable statute of limitations or similar bar.
- 42. The Plaintiffs are without sufficient information or knowledge to plead the precise nature, extent and amount of the Employer's delinquency since the books, records and information necessary to determine this liability are in the possession, control or knowledge of the Employer.
- 43. On information and belief, the Funds have been damaged by the Employer's violation of 29 U.S.C. §1145.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs ask that the Court:

(a) After an audit, enter judgment against the Employer in favor of the Funds for contributions found due and owing by the audit, together with interest at the rate prescribed by 26 U.S.C. §6621 from the due date for payment until the date of actual payment, liquidated damages equal to the greater of the interest on the unpaid contributions or liquidated damages provided by

the plan document or statute and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action and in connection with any proceedings to enforce or collect any judgment.

(b) Grant such other or further relief, legal or equitable, as may be just, necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

FREEDMAN AND LORRY, P.C.

BY:

SUSAN A. MURRAY, ESQUIRE

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Date: August 20, 2019